

E

664

S84M6







In Memoriam.

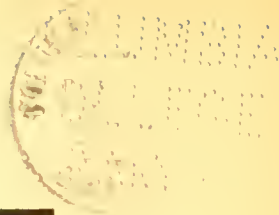
Francis B. Stockbridge,

United States Senator

From

THE LIBRARY
OF CONGRESS

Michigan.



LIBRARY
COLLEGE
MICHIGAN

THE LIBRARY
OF CONGRESS

10 c
11

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS

MEMORIAL

OF

FRANCIS B. STOCKBRIDGE

"We cannot hold mortality's strong hand."

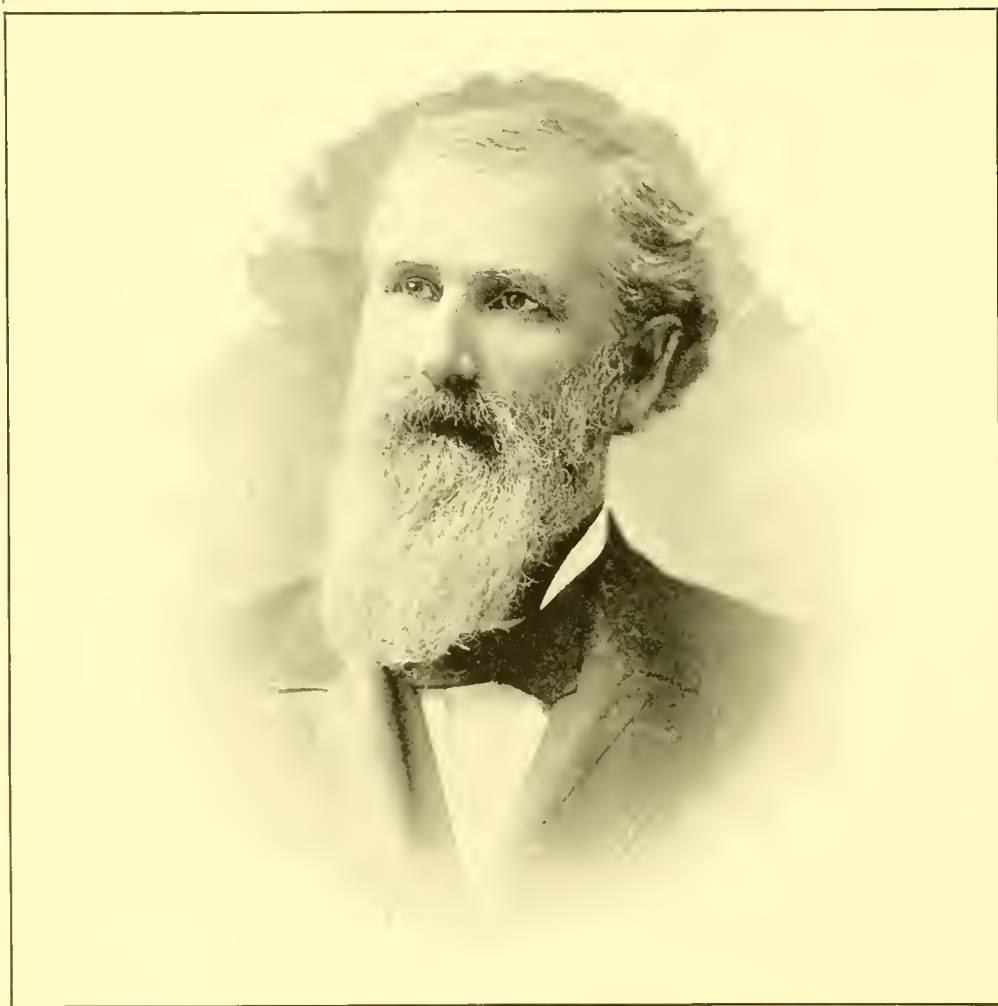
BY AUTHORITY

LANSING

ROBERT SMITH & CO., STATE PRINTERS AND BINDERS

1895

In Exch.
Columbia Univ Lib



" 'Tis ever wrong to say a good man dies."

" There's nothing terrible in death:
'Tis but to cast our robes away,
And sleep at night without a breath
To break repose till dawn of day."

Wm. L. G. L.



House of Representatives.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, {

Lansing, February 4, 1895. }

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. Chamberlain offered the following:

WHEREAS, Our State and nation has been called upon to mourn the untimely death of Michigan's gallant statesman and magnificent citizen, the Hon. Francis B. Stockbridge; therefore be it

Resolved (the Senate concurring), That a joint committee of three Representatives and three Senators be appointed to arrange for a joint memorial convention of the two Houses

that opportunity may be given for paying fitting tribute to the memory of him, our illustrious dead.

Laid over one day under the rules.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
Lansing, February 5, 1895. }

UNFINISHED BUSINESS,

Being the consideration of the following:

WHEREAS, Our State and nation has been called upon to mourn the untimely death of Michigan's gallant statesman and magnificent citizen, the Hon. Francis B. Stockbridge; therefore be it

Resolved (the Senate concurring), That a joint committee of three Representatives and three Senators be appointed to arrange for a joint memorial convention of the two Houses

that opportunity may be given for paying fitting tribute to the memory of him, our illustrious dead.

The question being on the adoption of the resolution,

The resolution was adopted.

MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE.

The Speaker announced the following:

SENATE CHAMBER, }
Lansing, February 5, 1895. }

To the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

SIR—I am instructed by the Senate to return to the House the following concurrent resolution:

WHEREAS, Our State and nation has been called upon to mourn the untimely death of Michigan's gallant statesman and magnificent citizen, the Hon. Francis B. Stockbridge; therefore be it

Resolved (the Senate concurring), That a joint committee of

three Representatives and three Senators be appointed to arrange for a joint memorial convention of the two Houses that opportunity may be given for paying fitting tribute to the memory of him, our illustrious dead;

In the adoption of which the Senate has concurred.

Very respectfully,

DENNIS E. ALWARD,

Secretary of the Senate.

The Speaker announced as the committee on the part of the House, under the resolution, Messrs. Foote, Latimer and Smith.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
Lansing, February 11, 1895. }

MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE.

The Speaker announced the following:

SENATE CHAMBER, }
Lansing, February 11, 1895. }

To the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

SIR—I am instructed by the Senate to inform the House that Senators Bialy, Warner and Keeler have been appointed on the part of the Senate under the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Our State and nation has been called upon to mourn the untimely death of Michigan's gallant statesman and magnificent citizen, the Hon. Francis B. Stockbridge; therefore be it

Resolved (the Senate concurring), That a joint committee of three Representatives and three Senators be appointed to arrange for a joint memorial convention of the two Houses that opportunity may be given for paying fitting tribute to the memory of him, our illustrious dead.

Very respectfully,

DENNIS E. ALWARD,

Secretary of the Senate.

The message was laid on the table.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
Lansing, March 15, 1895. }

Mr. Foote arose to a question of privilege and suggested that as a number of committees had been appointed relative to memorial exercises for the distinguished dead who had recently passed away, and believing that one committee would more satisfactorily arrange for all exercises of that nature, for himself he would much prefer to be excused from the committee on memorial exercises for the late Senator Stockbridge, and that the duties thereof be transferred to the committee in charge of the memorials for the late ex-Governors Blair and Winans.

The Speaker announced that by unanimous consent the suggestion of Mr. Foote would be agreed to, and that the several proposed memorials would be arranged for as indicated.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
Lansing, May 13, 1895. }

By the joint committee on the Stockbridge Memorial Exercises:
Your committee appointed for the purpose of arranging for a

memorial convention of the two Houses that opportunity may be given for paying fitting tribute to the memory of the late distinguished United States Senator from Michigan, Hon. Francis B. Stockbridge,

Beg leave to report, that we have met with the committee of the Senate, and have arranged as follows:

Both Houses will convene in the Hall of Representatives May 20, at 8 p. m., and will be addressed by his excellency, Gov. John T. Rich, Lieutenant Gov. Alfred Milnes, and members from both Houses.

The program will be interspersed with music, vocal and instrumental.

Very respectfully,

F. C. CHAMBERLAIN,

Chairman House Committee.

Report accepted.

Senate Chamber.

SENATE CHAMBER, }
Lansing, February 5, 1895. {

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE.

The President announced the following:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
Lansing, February 5, 1895. {

To the President of the Senate:

SIR—I am instructed by the House to transmit to the Senate the following concurrent resolution:

WHEREAS, Our State and nation has been called upon to mourn the untimely death of Michigan's gallant statesman and

magnificent citizen, the Hon. Francis B. Stockbridge; therefore be it

Resolved (the Senate concurring), That a joint committee of three Representatives and three Senators be appointed to arrange for a joint memorial convention of the two Houses that opportunity may be given for paying fitting tribute to the memory of him, our illustrious dead;

Which has been adopted by the House and in which the concurrence of the Senate is respectfully asked.

Very respectfully,

LEWIS M. MILLER,

Clerk of the House of Representatives.

The question being on concurring in the adoption of the resolution,

The Senate concurred.

SENATE CHAMBER, }
Lansing, February 8, 1895. }

The President announced Messrs. Bialy, Warner and Keeler as the committee on the part of the Senate to arrange for a joint memorial convention of the two Houses for the late Hon. Francis B. Stockbridge.

We see him yet; we hear his voice;

Fond mem'ry brings him close to view.

His heart with kindly thoughts so full,

His every word and action true,

House of Representatives.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
Lansing, May 20, 1895. }

EVENING SESSION.

7:45 o'clock p. m.

The House met and was called to order by the Speaker.

Roll called: quorum present.

The Speaker announced that the session of this evening had been set apart for exercises

In Memoriam.

The Late Hon. Francis B. Stockbridge.

The Speaker called Mr. Chamberlain to the chair.

Mr. Taylor moved that a committee of three be appointed to wait on the Senate, the Governor and State officers, and inform them that the House has convened in session and is ready to receive them ;

Which motion prevailed.

The Acting Speaker announced as such committee, Messrs. Taylor, Covell and Place.

After a short absence the committee returned and reported that they had performed the duty assigned them, and were discharged.

The Sergeant-at-Arms announced the Honorable, the Senate, who were conducted to seats.

The Sergeant-at-Arms announced the Honorable, the Governor and State officers, who were conducted to seats.

PROCEEDINGS IN JOINT CONVENTION.

The following is the

Program

Of the joint convention:

MUSIC—"Funeral March" M. E. CHURCH ORCHESTRA
PRAYER REV. W. H. OSBORNE
MUSIC—"Remember Thy Creator" PRESBYTERIAN MALE QUARTETTE
PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS }
AND ADDRESS, { . SENATOR CHARLES H. SMITH
ADDRESS GOV. JOHN T. RICH
MUSIC INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL CHOIR
ADDRESS REPRESENTATIVE BYRON S. WAITE
ADDRESS SENATOR C. C. CHITTENDEN
MUSIC—"Mona," *Adams* MRS. MARIE A. DAVIS
ADDRESS REPRESENTATIVE J. T. CAMPBELL
MUSIC—Instrumental, { *a.* "Arabesque," }
 { *b.* "Schattentanz," } . MISS MARIE STEPHENSON
ADDRESS REPRESENTATIVE C. E. FOOTE

ADDRESS REPRESENTATIVE W. I. LATIMER
 ADDRESS LIEUT. GOV. ALFRED MILNES
 MUSIC—"After," PRESBYTERIAN MALE QUARTETTE
 BENEDICTION REV. H. S. JORDAN

Senator Smith, on behalf of the Committee of Arrangements, presented the following:

WHEREAS, The Supreme Ruler, in his inscrutable wisdom has seen fit to remove from his field of usefulness and from among men, the Honorable Francis B. Stockbridge, late Senator in the Congress of the United States; and

WHEREAS, It is becoming to the Representatives of the State he represented in Congress to give expression to their feeling of great loss, and the high regard in which he was held by his fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, We recognize in the late Mr. Stockbridge a man of the people who, by his indomitable energy and nobleness of character, rose to the highest position in the gift of the people of this State; and

WHEREAS, We recognize the fact that while Mr. Stockbridge was honored by the people of the State of Michigan, the

people were honored by his painstaking and untiring efforts in everything pertaining to Michigan as a State, and in those lines which were for the best interests of the general government; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of the Senate and House of Representatives of the Legislature of Michigan of 1895, do hereby record our feeling of loss, our high appreciation of the noble character of our late Senator, and our high estimate of Mr. Stockbridge as a man, as a citizen and as a statesman; and be it

Further resolved, That a copy of this preamble and resolution, suitably engrossed, be sent to the widow of our late Senator, to whom in her great affliction, this Legislature desires to tender its most profound sympathy.

The question being on the adoption of the resolutions,

Senator Smith addressed the joint convention as follows:

Mr. President, Members of the Legislature, and Fellow Citizens--The announcement of the comparatively sudden death of Michigan's United States Senator, Francis B. Stockbridge, one

year ago, spread sorrow among the citizens of our commonwealth. It has been fittingly said by an eminent statesman of this country that, "Silence is the best exponent of individual sorrow, and the heart that knoweth its own bitterness shrinks from exposition of its affliction." However, I do not understand that we are here assembled to express our profound grief because of the death of our distinguished Senator, but to consider briefly his conspicuous traits of character and his true manhood, which we can profitably study and emulate. So far as I am personally concerned, I confess my incompetency to draw a faithful picture of the splendid characteristics of this noble man. Still, a moment's reflection at this time may aid us to more clearly understand and appreciate his elevated manhood, loving disposition and unalloyed humanity. It is necessary to employ some standard to determine the worth and capability of the character of any person or subject under consideration. Measured by the highest and most exacting test, the life of Senator Stockbridge will stand out as honest, great and useful.

The deceased Senator was born at Bath, in the State of

Maine, in the year 1826. His father was a practitioner in medicine, and having a limited practice and income was unable to assist the son to a college education. The young man, at the age of fourteen, full of ambition, started out for himself and secured employment in a dry goods store in the city of Boston, where he remained until the year 1847, when his expanded ambition and hope led him to believe that there were wider opportunities and scope for industrious young men in the interior of this great country, and he thereupon made a shift to the city of Chicago, where he embarked in the lumber business upon his own account. In 1857, the great financial crash came, and he used his entire property to satisfy his indebtedness. His high commercial honor and persistent industry enabled him to obtain accommodation in a sufficient amount to re-establish himself in business in Chicago, which he conducted continuously until 1871, when he began operating in lumber at Saugatuck, Allegan county, this State, where he remained until 1877, when he made his final move to the beautiful village of Kalamazoo, where he lived until his death.

He had large lumber interests in the upper peninsula of

Michigan and on the Pacific coast, in which Gen. Alger was associated with him. In Kalamazoo, he invested money in substantial sums in manufacturing enterprises and in every way practicable aided in the employment of the laborers and mechanics of his resident city. He never loaned a dollar of money for the mere interest which it might earn, but used it at all times in such a manner as to benefit the greatest number of his countrymen, with a fair profit for himself. His whole life was a beautiful example of modest generosity and christian charity. No honest needy man, woman or child ever applied at his door for assistance without receiving help and encouragement from his kind hand and heart. The purity of his purpose and love of mankind were evidenced in every movement of his noble career. He would have died a multo-millionaire, but for his numerous charitable contributions while living. I am authentically informed that for years before his death, the account of "Gifts and charities" was the largest personal account upon his books. For instance, in the year 1893, his books show that his living expenses were \$24,000, while his gifts and charities for the same year amounted to the magnificent sum of \$30,000. He

gave to Albion College at one time, \$5,000. Hobart Hall at Ann Arbor, Michigan (an Episcopal institution), in 1887, \$10,000. He equipped one room in the Garfield Hospital at Washington at a cost of several thousand dollars. He gave \$10,000 to a woman's hospital in Chicago, \$10,000 to the Y. M. C. A. at Kalamazoo five or six years before his death. He made frequent contributions to the children's home at Kalamazoo, which was remembered in his will to the amount of \$30,000. It was his custom to ascertain from the church people in his city the names of the unfortunate poor there, and have sent to them periodically food and money to relieve them of their suffering and misfortunes. Many church societies, financially embarrassed, have been the happy recipients of his unostentatious bounty. In fact, the whole charitable work of his life was undemonstrative.

As an illustration, he at one time became deeply interested in a poor man residing in his city who was about to lose his home on mortgage foreclosure proceedings. Senator Stockbridge knew the man personally and had boundless confidence in his perfect integrity. He dispatched a messenger for a gen-

tleman, whom he requested to act for him, so that Senator Stockbridge would not be known as the moving spirit in the matter. Through the intervention of this outside party, he paid and satisfied the mortgage and obtained a discharge thereof, which he had delivered to the embarrassed mortgagor, whose gratitude for this kindly act was only equalled by the joy and happiness of his unknown benefactor. A faithful narrative of the frequent evidences of his impulsive generosity might be indefinitely continued. He sincerely believed in bestowing his gifts of money and property during his own lifetime in order that he might earlier assist the needy, and personally enjoy the relief afforded by his own hands, simply intending to retain a financial competency at old age, provided that he had lived the matured life of four score years, which it is evident from the management of his business affairs he anticipated.

He was a thorough student of finance and the great material and commercial interests of the country, and possessed an aptitude and sagacity for a great business career. He studied his investments closely, and, when made, always evinced stalwart

confidence in their ultimate success. His financial prosperity was the natural fruit of his unceasing energy and skill. In fact, whatever he undertook, whether in public or private life, was regarded by him as certain of success. This unabating confidence, coupled with his eminent personal fitness, produced in all who knew him a corresponding faith in his capability, and this was the foundation of his political preferment.

He was elected by the Michigan Legislature in 1887 to a full term in the United States Senate, and received the grateful compliment of re-election to the same high office in 1893, but only served about one year and two months of his second term, having passed away on the 30th of April, 1894, after a very brief illness while temporarily in the city of Chicago. While in the United States Senate, as well as before, he was a fearless advocate of what he conceived to be right and was always alert to the interests of his constituents. He was capable of stating a proposition with convincing clearness and never failed to secure for the State of Michigan what he believed would most effectually promote the interests and welfare of her citizens. While in Congress, seven years and two months, he

obtained larger appropriations in the aggregate than were ever secured for this State by any other Senator during a similar period of time.

Both in and out of office, he was respected by every acquaintance. His home was a model of domestic felicity and love, and his sunny disposition and unpretending hospitality were a perfect guaranty of comfort and enjoyment to the many, many, friends who were his welcomed guests.

His private life was exemplary, his public life honorable and true. He tried to never feel want and never want feeling. He believed in and practiced that great cardinal virtue, charity, which is a mantle of heaven's own weaving lent us to cover our neighbor's imperfections.

The tongue of praise is incapable of doing his memory justice. His place can never be filled.

When the columns and arches supporting this great capitol structure shall have fallen, the broken fragments will bear evidence of a former magnificence. So with our esteemed friend: his body, now divested of animation and life, tells the

story of a loving husband, a perfect representative of the people and a princely patriot.

His Excellency, Governor John T. Rich, then spoke as follows:

Senators and Representatives, Ladies and Gentlemen—It is fitting that these resolutions be offered here tonight; it is especially fitting that they should be offered in this room, where he whose memory we meet to commemorate was twice nominated and twice elected to a seat in the highest legislative body in the world.

Senator Stockbridge was a noble specimen of the New England contribution to Michigan citizenship and statesmanship. He came here not only to better himself, but the State. He rendered material aid in material developments; he contributed to every good thing that came in his way and served the State with honor in the Senate of the United States. He partook somewhat of the rugged character of the country he came from, and like Gen. Cass, Senator Chandler and Gov. Blair, the very efforts he had to make in his youth to obtain a livelihood enabled him and them to succeed in the west and

had much to do with his success here. It seems to me that Senator Stockbridge in his advancement was typical of the progress and the advancement of the State itself. He came here young, poor in purse but rich in strength and perseverance and in noble aspirations to succeed. He came here when our State was young and the main thing to look for was the future, as they had little to show for it in the past. My acquaintance with Senator Stockbridge was comparatively limited, but every day and every hour that I was thrown in contact with him, increased my personal respect for him. He was candid in all that he did, and I do not now remember of his ever doing or advocating anything in his line of duty that he was not willing should be published in the press the next day. During the last few years he lived it was my fortune to be thrown in contact with him a great deal, and I found him absolutely honest and candid. He was as free from suspicion as any man it was ever my lot to meet; he had the courage of his conviction and stood by his principles under all circumstances. No better example of that can be given than in the sumptuous mansion in which he resided in Washington. He was surrounded by those who

believed in wine, and while the table was laden with everything else, wine was excluded therefrom.

On one or two other occasions I had reason to know of his character. He was not without political ambitions. In 1880 he aspired to be chief executive of the State of Michigan, but he believed it his duty to devote himself to an invalid wife; so well was that duty carried out that his invalid wife survives him. I have met him in other places. He could dictate a business proposition as clearly as any one I ever met without any pretense to oratory. He evinced such kind feelings, such marked friendship for those he met that he had strong attractive powers for all those with whom he was thrown in contact. I have heard him on the stump in the last campaign, without attempt at oratory, get up before a large audience and state his views, and seemed to draw them as much to himself as any man in the campaign, without effort or affectation. In the performance of the arduous duty as United States Senator he carried the same good hard common sense that had characterized him through life. While he made no attempt at oratory in the Senate, no man's judgment upon any proposition with relation

to this great country of ours commanded more respect than his. While there it made no difference how humble a man who went from Michigan, he had but to send his card to Senator Stockbridge and he would have as cordial welcome as though he came from the aristocracy or from a foreign country. It was done in a way which was attractive and made people not only respect but love Senator Stockbridge. I think the country and State owes much to him. His example and success in life is an inspiration to the youth of our land. He had no more to start in life than many of the young men who are within the hearing of my voice. It seems to me that no man ever gathered wealth more fairly and honestly and distributed it better than Senator Stockbridge. While it is an inspiration to the youth, it is also a rebuke to those who complain because so many are rich, while they are poor, because there is none but what have had the same opportunities before him as were before Senator Stockbridge.

Senator Stockbridge inherited from his ancestors industry and thrift which the circumstances made necessary, and brought those very qualities west with him, and they contributed much

to his success in life. Do you believe, or does any one believe, that if he had had a wealthy father, everything contributed, every opportunity for a college education, and had had no desire to do anything, that he would have acquired what he did? Young man, it is not always a misfortune to be born poor; you must work for success in life.

There are other speakers and I will not detain you longer. I cordially endorse the resolutions offered and say that I believe that Michigan is better, that this country has been better served, that the world is better, for Senator Stockbridge having lived.

Representative Byron S. Waite supported the resolutions in extempore remarks.

Senator Chittenden spoke as follows in support of the resolutions:

Francis B. Stockbridge, one of God's noblemen, in the zenith of his strength and usefulness, "has reached his journey's end," and we are gathered here tonight in halls of state, through which in earlier years his voice was heard, here at the capital

of the state he loved so well, and which he did so much to honor, to pay our tributes to his work and deeds. "He did not fall like drooping flowers that no man noticeth, but like a great branch of some stately tree, rent in a tempest and flung down to death, thick with green leafage."

How poor this world would be without the past, without its graves, without the mighty dead.

"Only those whose tongues are hushed in death speak eloquently through many years."

It matters not what hour the grim, dread messenger we call Death gives orders for some noble soul to launch his bark upon the dark and unknown sea; it matters not, the shock is always harsh, the grief is always deep, and the loss of one we love, and whom our country loves to honor, seems irreparable, and we look for volunteers to fill the gap made wide by such a death.

But what are years? One of the shining truths that make the memory of our heroes bright, is that their greatness is not measured by the years they lived.

"How long we live, not years but actions tell,
That man lives twice who lives the first life well;
The trust that's given guard and to thyself be just,
For live we how we may, yet die we must,"

The history of the world's great men is one made bright by the garlands of flowers that admiring multitudes have strewn upon their graves. All nations have ever honored their noble souls in life and death; when they have passed from the active scenes of life, we should forget their faults and weaknesses, and remember only those things we admire, and which are worthy of our emulation.

In reviewing the lives of great men we should always remember that "The greatest walk in shadows; and that faults and failures mingle with the lives of all."

Renown and honor are, to some extent, the creatures of circumstances. Opportunities present themselves, and ask for volunteers; and the man who is great enough, grand enough, and brave enough will embrace the opportunity, and rise by the strength of his genius and the opportunity offered, to greatness; but many an one whose greatness was known to those alone who knew him best, has passed forever from the thoughts of

men, because the moment never came to show the world his worth. As Gray in his Immortal Elegy has said:

“ Perhaps in this neglected spot is laid
Some heart once pregnant with celestial fire,
Hands that the rod of empire might have swayed
Or waked to ecstasy the living lyre,
“ But knowledge to their eyes her ample page,
Rich with the spoils of time, did ne’er unroll;
Chill penury repressed their noble rage,
And froze the genial current of their soul.”

While the hero whom we seek to honor here tonight was not the greatest, yet he was great, and noble, true and brave. When the noble Governor of this great State, wished a patriot, a statesman, a loyal friend in his council, when our nation's life was imperiled during the dark, dread hours of secession and rebellion, from a host of noble men Gov. Blair selected him of whom we speak tonight.

No man more brave than he; no one more patriotic; no one more true to the people whom he loved; no one had a grander heart than he.

One of the characteristics of his life was his unswerving fidelity to the principles of true friendship.

When his many friends had gathered to perform the sad and solemn funeral rites for their illustrious dead, the observer marked not alone the rich and noble, the distinguished and great, but many from the lower walks of life; and as they took their last sad look of their departed friend, their bosoms heaved, and with a sob of manly grief they said, "I never had a truer friend than he." Contrast this with the saddest of pictures when Benedict Arnold, raising his hand to Heaven, said "In all America I have not a friend, no not one." Patriotism, love and friendship are the three attributes that build men up, and make them truly great. No man can be great into whose heart the sweet and tender whisperings of love have never come. No man can be truly great whose heart has not gone out towards the spot he calls home; who has never said "This is my own, my native land." No man can be truly great whose soul does not possess the principles of true friendship, that golden cord that binds man nearer man and makes life worth the living.

The illustrious dead was blessed with all these virtues—he

was a patriot, he was a statesman, he was an American; he loved his country, and his country loved him well.

May the noble spirit of patriotism, the sweet, tender love for humanity, the ennobling principles of true friendship that so raised him above his fellow men, be ever emulated by all lovers of the human race.

Representative J. T. Campbell then spoke as follows:

Mr. Chairman, Senators and Representatives, Ladies and Gentlemen—To you who had the pleasure of a personal and familiar acquaintance with Senator Stockbridge would seem to belong all the honor of a voice in his memory tonight; and I have no desire to occupy more than a moment of the time that so clearly belongs to you.

My knowledge of the life of that distinguished man was neither personal nor familiar; yet I knew him, and in a way that perhaps testified to his worth as emphatically and sincerely as another knowledge could have done. I knew him from his reputation as a sympathetic, a social and a friendly man; and while others of you speak of his other virtues and abilities I

shall confine myself strictly to a mention of that side of his life.

From the time that he first received the honor of a seat in the United States Senate, I have repeatedly heard and seen evidences of his eminent friendship toward his entire constituency and all the interests he had in charge. Whoever from Michigan had the good fortune to be a guest at the national capitol during his sojourn there was at once invited and installed into a common fellowship with Senator Stockbridge, and that social and friendly spirit exercised by one high in the councils of his nation always reflected credit and honor upon his beloved Michigan.

When a man, blind from his birth, was asked what he thought the sun to be like, he replied, "Like friendship." He had felt both; he knew both to be warm and invigorating. So the friendship and sympathy of Senator Stockbridge was always beaming and powerful. It marked him as a social favorite in whatever sphere he acted. In open hearted friendship he won what from others would have required brilliancy and eloquence.

If he was ambitious it was to retain his friends. If he had a political love, and he *had* at all times, that love was his

State of Michigan. When Michigan lost him she lost a great man's friendship, and tonight she regretfully, aye, sorely submits to the inevitable.

Who shall say but that his qualities of a genial and generous heart were, after all, the truest and most effectual elements of successful statesmanship? Who shall say that in admiring those features of his make-up we do not recognize the most potent forces that go to make men truly great?

We, representing his State, gather in this impressive way to speak of him tonight, but our words are vain except as they serve to perpetuate his work and his friendship to the people of Michigan who shall follow him. They who speak of his successes in ways of business and of politics have an extensive field before them, and I have thought it fitting for me to refer only to his genial friendship, of which I learn from his living reputation. His Michigan may well say with the bard of Avon,

* The dearest friend to me, the kindest man,
The best conditioned and unwearied spirit
In doing courtesies: and one in whom
The ancient Roman honor more appears
Than any that draws breath in Italy,"

Representative Foote spoke as follows:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen and Gentlemen of the Joint Convention—While I cannot add one word of praise to the many kind and loving words of those who have already preceded me, yet I cannot as a citizen of the same city and a neighbor of the late Senator Stockbridge, refrain from adding my testimony and to place upon record my high appreciation of him as a man in all the word implies.

It can be truly said that he was a self-made man; a man who possessed a sterling integrity, as well as all the other noble attributes that go towards the making of a good citizen. He was a man loyal and true to his friends, true to his convictions of right; a man of unswerving loyalty to his country; a man beloved by the rich and poor alike, who was in sympathy and always had a kind word for all who were distressed or in trouble; a man whose purse strings were always loosed to every worthy object; a man who was always ready to assist by every means in his power by which his fellow men might be elevated. Such a man was Francis B. Stockbridge.

He made it possible for that grand association of young men,

the Y. M. C. A., to erect that noble edifice in the city of Kalamazoo by giving \$10,000 to the building fund, and today that building stands as a towering monument to his memory, for without his gift and his encouragement this could not have been accomplished.

Michigan has in the past been called upon to mourn the loss of great men; men whose names will live in history; but the name of Francis B. Stockbridge will stand out in a halo of splendor as a man who never shirked a responsibility and who never turned his back upon a friend. He was a man who hated hypocrisy in every form. He had no use for a canting hypocrite or for any man whom he believed was in any way dishonest.

He performed his duty as a citizen and as a senator fearlessly; his record is an open book, and those who knew him best accord to him the highest meed of praise.

He sleeps his last long sleep at beautiful Mountain Home, overlooking the city he loved so well, which he had seen grow from a small hamlet to its present proportions. Over his sepulcher the sweet breath of spring wafts in gentle breezes, a

sad requiem, and we lovingly tonight bear tribute to his memory. May his ashes rest in peace.

Representative W. I. Latimer then spoke as follows:

Mr. Chairman, Senators and Representatives—I do not rise at this time to pronounce a formal or extended eulogy on the life, public services or private virtues of the late Senator Stockbridge, but it seems eminently fit and appropriate that after an acquaintance of nearly a quarter of a century, and of daily association for five years, I should, with others, pay a brief tribute of respect to his memory and his worth. He was a man of vigorous, frank nature. Like most of us, he was not free from faults and peculiarities of disposition, but if quick to resent an injury he was also quick to forgive it. He had a thorough aversion to all affectation, was simple and direct in action and expression, independent and clear in judgment. His sincerity was beyond question. His honest belief in the principles which he professed was never disputed; he meant what he said and had no halting opinions; he had a judgment and a decided judgment on every question that was presented to him,

and was a forcible but not a frequent speaker. He was a party man, and early selected for his support the party which in his judgment was most conformable to the rights and liberties of the people and to the prosperity of the country. Having deliberately made his choice he adhered to it with all the tenacity of his nature. He believed in strong measures and had no confidence in half-way methods. Whatever was right, he held was to be promoted by all legal and proper means. He was a manly, generous, sturdy and courageous friend. In one important respect he supplied an example valuable in any government, especially in one so popular as our own. I refer to the fact that on no occasion was Senator Stockbridge known to use his official position for his own pecuniary gain, either directly or indirectly. His death has ended a career of public service throughout which no one ever charged or suspected him of having made personal profit out of his political station and opportunities. Free-handed and open-hearted, he kept his word, despised a coward and loathed a hypocrite. Among the most prominent distinguishing traits in the character of the late Senator Stockbridge were his strong convictions of what he

believed to be right, and his indomitable courage in expressing and maintaining those convictions regardless of consequences. He who possesses such characteristics may always have enemies, but he will never be without friends. Mr. Chairman, in closing let me bear testimony to the warmth of his love for his fellows and the noble qualities of the man—not because custom and usage and regard for the decencies and proprieties of life require it when he is stricken with death, but because I knew and admired the man, and had enjoyed his society and friendship, and esteem it a privilege to honor his memory.

Lieutenant Governor Milnes then addressed the joint convention as follows:

Mr. Chairman, Members of the House and Senate, Ladies and Gentlemen—A little more than one year ago the sad news flashed over the electric wires, conveying to us the intelligence that Michigan's distinguished son and statesman, Francis B. Stockbridge, had passed from earth and gone to join the great majority.

We have assembled here tonight in this hall of legislation,

where our departed friend and brother stood but a few short years ago in the prime of life and the strength of his noble manhood, in the performance of his duty as a legislator, to pay a tribute to his memory and to testify to his many fine qualities of heart and mind.

It has been truly said that time is the great healer to hearts wounded by the loss of loved ones; yet after this lapse of time, we cannot help but feel sad and sorrowful that the manly form and genial features of our friend, and the public's benefactor, will be seen no more in the legislative halls of State or nation.

Senator Stockbridge was one of those men whom but to know was to love and admire; one of those rugged, honest and genial business men who have made the great northwest blossom like a rose, and left their impress in the communities in which they lived.

Born in the grand old state of Maine, of highly respected parents, he grew up among the tall pines and rugged hills of his native state until the age of sixteen. With a strong and manly constitution, though young in years, he started out with a fixed and steady determination to carve out for himself

a name and fortune. For a time he stood behind a counter in Boston, Massachusetts. With his genial manner and gentlemanly deportment, his fine form and gentle voice, we can readily believe he was a success in this position. Saving some of his earnings while engaged as clerk, he soon started boldly forth into the great northwest, landing in the city of Chicago, and soon afterwards engaging in the lumber business, and quickly demonstrating his ability as a first class business man. Bold and aggressive in all his business transactions, but scrupulously truthful and honest with all with whom he came in contact, he soon gained the confidence of the business world, and was thus enabled to lay the foundation of the great fortune which he soon possessed. He was an ideal business man, with a quick eye, strong will, and ready judgment to take advantage of any opening that led to honorable success in business affairs. His rugged honesty and hearty manner attracted the attention of his fellow men. His untiring energy in early and middle manhood spurred on those with whom he was associated to greater effort and nobler deeds.

Moving to Allegan in 1851, at which time the whole north-

western part of the State was a dense forest, covered with a mighty growth of the tallest and finest pine in the world, and inhabited by wild beasts of various kinds, he very soon commenced operations which led to the rapid development of Allegan and surrounding counties, and at the same time adding to his own fortune a magnificent sum. Later on he took up his residence in the then big village of Kalamazoo, now one of the finest and most progressive inland cities in this or any other State. Kalamazoo remained his home up to the time of his death.

His adopted city soon began to feel his influence, and never afterwards ceased to honor and reward him for all he did towards its splendid development.

The citizens of Kalamazoo very quickly recognized his great ability and fitness for public affairs, and although he was not a politician in the sense in which that term is generally understood, they soon started him out on an honorable political career which only ended with life itself. In 1869, he served in the lower House of Michigan's Legislature, and in 1871 he was elected to the State Senate, in both of which bodies he served with great distinction to himself and honor to his constituents.

His tact and judgment, coupled with his winning ways and gentlemanly deportment, assured the success of almost any cause which he advocated. He was not an orator or trained public speaker; but he had that which is a surer leader to success, the confidence and esteem of his colaborers. His influence for good on the business, social and political life of Michigan will be recognized and felt for many years yet to come.

He was richly endowed with good, common sense, with the power to make others see in a right way complex propositions of finance, business and politics. His advice was always freely and frankly given when asked for; if followed, almost invariably led to victory and success. Many men of more brilliant parts than Senator Stockbridge fail for lack of the good sense and tact which he possessed in such an eminent degree.

In 1887 he was elected to the highest legislative body in the land, and served the State and nation with signal ability. In 1893 he was re-elected to the same position and served his constituents faithfully and well up to the time of his sudden death in Chicago.

There is nothing in this world that succeeds like success

itself, and when measured from this safe standpoint, Senator Stockbridge was a great success in all the avocations of life in which he engaged.

While Senator Stockbridge was not a brilliant man on the floor of the United States Senate, yet he succeeded in representing the State of Michigan at the national capitol in a highly creditable manner, and became a Senator of great influence in the councils of the nation. His great ability and untiring efforts in behalf of the interests of his adopted State have been bountifully testified to by his colleagues in the Senate and recognized by the people of Michigan.

He made a great fortune by his splendid business abilities; but, unlike some of our nation's millionaires, he did not hoard it. He was liberal to a fault, scattering his money to the right and left among the poor and needy, relieving the distressed, and caring for those upon whom the fortunes of life had fallen heavily.

Michigan has reason to feel proud and grateful that some of her sons, whom wealth and fortune have smiled upon, have set a bright and shining example to other men of wealth and influ-

ence in following out the divine injunction to remember the poor and needy. The well known benefactions of Michigan's soldier statesman, General Alger, and of him whose memory we commemorate today, are worthy of imitation by those upon whom God has showered his blessings with such a liberal hand. If our many and still multiplying millionaires, would apply some of their accumulated wealth as these men have done, we should soon cease to hear the complaints we now so often hear against the accumulation of large estates, and the great war between capital and labor would be robbed of its principal incentives; and instead of trying to tear down and destroy great fortunes, we should all be praying for them to increase, and showering blessings upon the men who do not forget that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

Senator Stockbridge was a man prolific in resources and business ability; he was prominent in the mining affairs of the upper peninsula; he engaged largely in the manufacturing establishments of his home city; he was the owner of farms and took great interest in agricultural enterprises; he extended his lumber interests into distant states and territories. Yet everything he

undertook was conducted with such good judgment and economy that success was sure to follow.

The life work and success of Senator Stockbridge furnish to the youth of this and future generations the incentive for the accomplishment of the possibilities that lie before them. In this great republic, in this land of freedom, every man stands on an equal footing before the law, and may, by industry, honesty and perseverance, ascend to the top of fortune's ladder. The poor man of today may become the man of wealth and position tomorrow, by a strict attention to business, and an exercise of those solid qualities of will, mind and heart so conspicuously possessed by the late Senator Stockbridge.

Senator Stockbridge was a staunch believer and supporter of the fundamental principles of christianity, which had much to do in building up and molding his character.

And now he has gone from our sight forever; his mortal remains have been laid at rest; his noble spirit has taken flight, let us hope, to a brighter and happier home. His memory and good deeds, all the good he did in this life, will live on down the ages of time; and a grateful people will revere his name.

Into the silent land: ah' who shall lead us thither?

Let us, my friends, be ready to do our duty in a conscientious manner, manfully battling for the cause of right and justice, with a firm belief that the immortal bard was right when he said:

"That he who in life's battle firm doth stand
Shall bear hope's tender blossoms to the silent land."

The question being on the adoption of the resolutions,
The resolutions were adopted by an unanimous rising vote.
On motion of Mr. W. D. Kelly,
The joint convention adjourned.

IN MEMORY
OF
HON. FRANCIS B. STOCKBRIDGE
OF KALAMAZOO

STATE SENATOR, UNITED STATES SENATOR

AND

WELL BELOVED CITIZEN

BORN AT BATH, MAINE, APRIL 9, 1826

DIED IN CHICAGO, APRIL 30, 1894

COMMEMORATIVE EXERCISES

PARTICIPATED IN BY THE GOVERNOR, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
AND SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
Lansing, May 23, 1895. }

Mr. Chamberlain offered the following:

Resolved, That there be printed fifteen hundred copies of the proceedings of the Stockbridge Memorial Joint Convention for distribution among the members of the House and Senate;

Which was adopted.

" Death's but a path that must be trod,
If man would ever pass to God."

" Faith builds a bridge across the gulf of death,
To break the shock blind nature cannot shun,
And lands thought smoothly on the other shore."

COMPILED BY

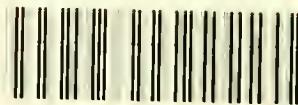
SAMUEL F. COOK,

JOURNAL CLERK,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 013 704 819 A

